

Report on Salisbury Diocesan Synod – Saturday 6 February 2010

From the March edition of the *Sarum Link*

Mission, Social Commitment and the Common Good were the key themes for Diocesan Synod at Corfe Mullen on February 6th.

In his Presidential Address, the Bishop of Salisbury said that rather than thinking in terms of "what we believe and what we do", we might consider a different pairing of "what we are and how we express it". He suggested that one way of putting this into practice was to support his fundraising appeal for Bishop Gwynne College.

A debate took place on mission and social action, after which members shared their thoughts on how local churches might serve the common good in their communities.

Looking ahead, members approved a motion to review the structures for diocesan engagement with and co-ordination of social responsibility as a key expression of mission.

A report on the 'Rediscovering our Parish Churches' pilot project in Heytesbury and Sherborne Deaneries led to the agreement that this successful approach to using church buildings more effectively to serve local communities should be extended to two more deaneries in 2010 and future years.